

**MINUTES
TAHLEQUAH CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 2, 2026 - 5:30 PM
111 Cherokee Ave. Tahlequah, OK 74464**

1. MEETING CONVENED

- a. Meeting called to order by Mayor Suzanne Myers at 5:30 pm.
- b. City Clerk, Whitney Shaw, called the roll as follows:

Present: Councilor Ward I Danny Perry
 Councilor Ward II Keith Baker
 Councilor Ward IV Josh Allen
Absent: Councilor Ward III Stephen Highers

Others present: Mayor Suzanne Myers, City Attorney JT Hammons, City Administrator Taylor Tannehill, City Clerk Whitney Shaw, City Treasurer Mary Hainzinger, and IT Support Jordan Popinno

- c. **Invocation:** Police Chief Nate King
- d. **Flag salute:** Led by members of the American Legion
- e. **Public Notice:** December 19, 2024 at 9:10 a.m. and December 22, 2025, at 11:50 a.m.

2. PUBLIC INSTRUCTIONS

Access Code: [883 0005 7649](#) Password: [4560651](#)

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Public comment by Tyler Rector, American Legion Post 50 and Citizen Kathy Cott

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- a) City Administrator Taylor Tannehill, as a member of the OML Board of Directors, presented the OML Honor Roll for 25 Years of Service certificates to Vicki Johnson, Mark Whittmore, and Jaylene Studie.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Highers made a motion and Councilor Allen seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- a) Approve the minutes from the January 5, 2026, City Council meeting.
- b) Acknowledge receipt the December 2025 General Fund Executive Summary.
- c) Acknowledge receipt of the December 2025 Purchasing Card Statement.
- d) Acknowledge receipt of the December 2025 Investment Schedule.
- e) Acknowledge receipt of the December 2025 Check Register.
- f) Acknowledge receipt of the December 2025 Open PO Report.
- g) Acknowledge receipt of the January 2026 Tahlequah Hospital Authority report.
- h) Acknowledge receipt of the January 2026 Tourism report.
- i) Acknowledge receipt of the January 2026 Tahlequah Regional Development Authority report.
- j) Acknowledge receipt of the January 2026 Tahlequah Main Street report.

- k) Accept the donation award from Petco in the amount of \$3005, amending the budget and placing funds in the Restricted Donations account for the Animal Shelter.
- l) Authorize the Mayor to sign an Affirmation for Right to Use a street, drainage, and utility easement for Lake Region to construct, use, operate, maintain, and patrol an Underground Fiber Optic Cable and an Overhead Fiber Optic Cable on Downing near the intersection of Bliss.
- m) Approve Zenith change orders for the Anthis Baseball Concessions as follows: #1, an addition of \$5785.00 for 12" drain pipe, 2' of 2"+ stone and filter fabric install; #2, an addition of \$781.00 for electrical service, add gyp ceiling; total cost of Change Orders: \$6,566.00.
- n) Hire Jordan Rodwell, Kannon Trammel, Kurt Trammel, Reilyn Lomeli, Aiyanna Washington, Hayden Garcia, Cade Smith, Preston Stallworth, Sawyer Henderson, Keyan Blankenship, Lesly Lozano, and Cassidy Fertig as unbudgeted PT Laborers/Concessions-Cherokee Fields at Anthis-Brennen at \$10.07 per hour, effective February 4, 2026.
- o) Hire Destiny Vandorn and Cody Rice as dispatchers—Police Department at \$16.00 per hour, effective February 2, 2026.
- p) Hire Justin Brown, Patrolman II in the Police Department, salary per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective February 4, 2026.
- q) Promote Gustavo Guzman from Dispatcher to Patrolman I in the Police Department, salary per the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective February 1, 2026.
- r) **Moved to Regular Session by Councilor Keith Baker.**
- s) **Moved to Regular Session by Councilor Keith Baker.**
- t) **Moved to Regular Session by Councilor Keith Baker.**
- u) Accept the resignation of Dylan Harman, Patrolman in the Police Department, effective January 14, 2026.
- v) Accept the resignations of Gabriella Hall and Ashlin Sutton, PT Laborers in the Parts and Recreation Department, effective December 23, 2025.
- w) Accept the resignation of Caiden Waits, Head Lifeguard in the Parks and Recreation Department, effective January 8, 2026.
- x) Accept the resignation of Elianah Auguston, Lifeguard in the Parks and Recreation Department effective January 8, 2026.
- y) Accept the resignation (retirement) of Della Combs, Dispatcher in the Police Department, effective February 1, 2026.
- z) Accept the resignation of Alisson Rodriguez, Dispatcher in the Police Department, effective January 9, 2026.

Vote: *Ayes: Baker, Allen, Perry* *Nays: None* *Motion carried*

6. REGULAR SESSION

- a) Councilor Baker made a motion and Councilor Allen seconded to approve, in one motion, the following items from the consent agenda:

item (r) Approve the promotion of Firefighter/Driver David Craig to Lieutenant within the Tahlequah Fire Department effective February 1, 2026.

item (s) Approve the promotion of Firefighter/Driver Zach Frazier to Lieutenant within the Tahlequah Fire Department effective February 1, 2026.

Item (t) Approve the promotion of Firefighter/Driver Jimmy Fort to Lieutenant within the Tahlequah Fire Department effective February 1, 2026.

Vote: *Ayes: Baker, Allen, Perry* *Nays: none* *Motion carried*

- b) Councilor Perry made a motion and Councilor Baker seconded to authorize the Mayor to sign the Amendment to the Grant Agreement for closing out the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Grant for the creation of the City of Tahlequah's Transportation Safety Action Plan.

Vote: *Ayes: Perry, Baker, Allen* *Nays: none* *Motion carried*

- c) Councilor Allen made a motion and Councilor Baker seconded to authorize the Mayor to sign the Amendment to the Grant Agreement closing out the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Grant for the creation of the City of Tahlequah's Transportation Safety Action Plan.

Vote: Ayes: Allen, Baker, Perry Nays: none Motion carried

- d) Councilor Perry made a motion and Councilor Allen seconded to approve authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract between the City of Tahlequah and the Board of County Commissioners of Cherokee County for sign make services.

Vote: Ayes: Perry, Allen, Baker Nays: none Motion carried

- e) Councilor Allen made a motion and Councilor Baker seconded to approve authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Tahlequah and VOX Audio and Visual in the amount of \$173,326.53 for the purchase of audio equipment for downtown.

Vote: Ayes: Allen, Baker, Perry Nays: none Motion carried

- f) Councilor Allen made a motion and Councilor Perry seconded to award and enter into an agreement with the lowest responsible bidder, H & H Construction, for concrete bases for light poles along Muskogee Avenue, Project #2026-1.

Vote: Ayes: Allen, Perry, Baker Nays: none Motion carried

- g) Councilor Allen made a motion and Councilor Perry seconded to award and enter into an agreement with the lowest responsible bidder, Platinum Construction, LLC, for concrete work at Cherokee Fields at Anthis, Project #2026-2.

Vote: Ayes: Allen, Perry, Baker Nays: none Motion carried

- h) Councilor Allen made a motion and Councilor Baker seconded to approve the closure of Riverlinks Golf Course for an employee golf tournament and establishing fees for the tournament.

Vote: Ayes: Allen, Baker, Perry Nays: none Motion carried

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilor Allen made a motion and Councilor Perry seconded to exit the Regular Session and enter into an Executive Session at 6:00 pm.

Vote: Ayes: Allen, Perry, Baker Nays: none Motion carried

8. RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION at 7:21 pm.

- a) No action was taken relating to the City Administrator's evaluation as discussed in the Executive Session.
- b) No action was taken pertaining to economic development related to the River Center Project as discussed in the Executive Session.
- c) No action was taken related to the purchase or appraisal of real property located near the airport as discussed in the Executive Session.
- d) No action was taken related to the confidential communication pertaining to case #CJ-25-232, Cherokee County District Court as discussed in the Executive Session.
- e) Meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm.